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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

20 NOV 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR:



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SUBJECT: Photo Working Panel

1. The National Reconnaissance Office was established jointly by the Department of Defense and the Central Intelligence Agency for the creation and execution of a National Reconnaissance Plan. It is responsible for collection of intelligence through overflights over denied territory, and must assure that all possible steps are taken to improve the quality of, and the ability to derive information from, aerial and satellite photography involved. Much has been done in this regard, but experience emphasizes that each improvement makes a great contribution to the national security.

2. At the present time there are shortcomings which appear to be susceptible of correction, and it would appear that the best manner in which to proceed is to call together the best minds and the best technical backgrounds from Government and from private life to study the problems involved and produce solutions. For this reason the Government calls upon you representatives of American industry who have so much experience and technical capability in the overhead reconnaissance field.

3. It is understood that any joint meeting of this sort involves problems for you of a legal and practical nature. The legal problems appear to be resolved by applying to this meeting the philosophy and procedures of Executive Order 11007, which was designed for just such situations,

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and for this purpose the Central Intelligence Agency was designated as Executive Agent of the National Reconnaissance Office. The committee which is being convened is clearly established in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Central Intelligence Agency by law. The practical problems, and particularly such as relate to confidential proprietary information possessed by your companies, can be resolved as they arise by understanding and cooperation between the Agency representatives and the companies concerned.

4. We greatly appreciate your willingness to participate in this enterprise by contributing your personnel and expert knowledge.

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BROCKWAY McMILLAN  
Director  
National Reconnaissance Office

*Marshall S. Carter*

MARSHALL S. CARTER  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Acting Director of Central  
Intelligence

~~TOP SECRET~~